REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted supplementary to the previous Amendment and in connection with the interview with the Examiner.

During the interview the Examiner indicated that the expression "which comes close or is identical" should be clarified. In connection with this, it was decided to replace this expression with the expression -- which at least comes close to an instantaneous situation pattern --.

It is believed that this change, which was discussed with the Examiner is acceptable.

The Examiner also indicated that it would be necessary to provide additional explanation for selection of the situation pattern to be at least close to an instantaneous situation pattern and a process algorithm linked to the situation pattern. In connection with this, the following information is provided herein below.

In addition to the explanations provided in the description, in particular on pages 28-30 of the specification, the situation patterns 6-82 have the following meaning. In the present invention it is distinguished between a situation pattern which is described by considering concrete (current) parameters and another situation pattern

which is already stored in the data processing system in the manner that the data processing system compares these different already existing situation patterns (and their specific parameters) with specific parameters of the new repair/maintenance problem. In a next step the data processing system (a computer system) chooses one of the already stored process algorithms which describe at least the new repair/maintenance situation. "At best" means in an ideal case, the chosen algorithm describes exactly the same situation, or in an also acceptable case the chose algorithm describes a similar situation, a situation which comes close to the actual situation.

The example of this is as follows.

Based on sensor information or based on expert's knowledge, a repair or maintenance situation has been identified (by means of a diagnosis system) on a machine. Considering this information a process algorithm will be started to check the repair/maintenance situation in detail. As a first result of such an investigation, the data processing system generates a description of the recognized repair/maintenance situation/problem. In a second step the generated description will be stored in the data processing system (computer).

Such a procedure is time-consuming to get a result what is to do and in which order the identified repair/maintenance steps have to be realized. Hence the system needs time to create a suitable work-routine for solving the identified repair/maintenance problem.

The idea behind the solution proposed in this invention is to save time for creating a repair/maintenance routine for describing another repair/maintenance case by means of using already existing repair/maintenance routines (situation patterns). An election-routing compares the new situation pattern with already stored situation patterns and chooses such a situation pattern which corresponds at best with the new situation pattern. Since each stored situation pattern is described by concrete (machine-internal and machine-external) parameters the computer system can compare the several situation patterns very quickly. If a suitable situation pattern has been found [a situation pattern is selected which comes close or as identical to an instantaneous situation pattern ...], the data processing system (computer) provides the specific steps of the new repair/maintenance problem which have to be done. If the chosen situation pattern differs from the new situation pattern [and at least close...] the chosen situation pattern can be amended by the operator or by any other person.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application with all the claims currently on file is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion

might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

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